



**Board of Governors
of
The State Bar of California**

Resolution

**RECOGNIZING
Mediation Week**

March 18-24, 2007

Whereas mediation is a dispute resolution process in which a neutral third person facilitates communication between disputants to help them reach a mutually acceptable agreement;

Whereas during the past 25 years, California courts have increasingly encouraged, offered, and provided mediation to assist litigants in resolving civil, family, and juvenile actions and proceedings;

Whereas mediation offers many potential benefits to litigants, the courts, and the public, including increasing the interested parties' satisfaction with the litigation process and the courts and voluntary compliance with the terms of resolution, while reducing pretrial motions and trials, the time from the filing of an action to disposition, future disputes between the parties, recidivism, litigants' costs, and court workloads;

Whereas the availability and success of court mediation programs are largely attributable to the efforts of judicial officers, court staff, and the courts' justice partners, including local government agencies, state and local bar associations, mediation organizations, and individual mediators, many of whom contribute significant time and resources toward conducting mediations;

Whereas widespread public awareness of the nature, availability, and benefits of mediation, and court mediation programs is essential to ensuring the use of these programs and access to justice; and

Whereas the Governor and other California state and local officials and agencies traditionally recognize the third week of March as Mediation Week;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Governors of the State Bar of California recognizes the week of March 18 through 24, 2007, as Mediation Week, commends the efforts of all those who make mediation and mediation programs available to the citizens of California, and encourages the local bar associations to recognize those individuals and publicize local mediation programs during Mediation Week.

Adopted by the Board of Governors of the State Bar of California on March 9, 2007.